Dear Colleagues,

Having completed my second year at Cal Poly, I want to thank each of you for your leadership, support and collaboration. Much like the rest of the year, spring quarter witnessed many exciting accomplishments by College of Liberal Arts students and faculty, both on campus and off.

Inside, you will read how our students have impacted the university’s commitment to purchase conflict-free minerals; won international awards through innovative printed electronics; and brought top speakers to campus. Additionally, faculty research pursuits have resulted in numerous publications and local, state and national recognition.

A few updates from the winter issue and a look forward to the new academic year:

- The proposals for the Science, Technology and Society minors were approved by the College of Liberal Arts Curriculum Committee and await review by the Academic Senate Curriculum Committee.
- We hired a strong group of new faculty members, including three faculty members in the new STS interdisciplinary areas. One of these will also support joint efforts with the Department of Computer Science in the College of Engineering in the area of interactive entertainment.

Our successes over the past year reflect the dedication and skill of our faculty and students, as well as the support and services we received from across campus. Thank you for helping make this a very successful year for the College of Liberal Arts!

We look forward to increased collaborations in 2014-15 — raising CLA and Cal Poly’s level of excellence and prominence further.

Best Wishes,

Doug
in the news

LAES STUDENTS COLLABORATE ON SLO MINI MAKER FAIRE

Liberal Arts & Engineering Studies (LAES) students, in collaboration with the architecture program, created an interactive art installation for the SLO Mini Maker Faire in May. LAES students also helped publicize, document and represent Cal Poly at the event.

student success

GRAPHIC COMMUNICATION STUDENTS WIN PHOENIX CHALLENGE PACKAGING COMPETITION

Graphic communication students won first place at the Phoenix Challenge Flexo Packaging Competition on Saturday, April 26. Cal Poly’s team showcased their skills by rebranding local winery Saarloos and Sons’ Rosé label, taking the lead in the categories of Best Concept, Design, Research and Execution. Read more: http://bit.ly/1rKX2b.

ALBIA NAMED WINNER OF FIRST OPEN SCIENCE CAFE

Kennedy Library named Ali Albaini (Art & Design) the winner of the first Open Science Café, a new competition that awards a student proposal with a public programs mentor and budget. Albaini coordinated with library staff to bring Steve Duenes, graphics director for The New York Times, to campus to give a talk and workshop. Read more: http://bit.ly/1nskM7R.

TAMB LING RECEIVES PRESIDENT’S DIVERSITY AWARD

Caroline Tambling (Psychology & Child Development and Women’s & Gender Studies) received the 2014 President’s Diversity Award in the student category.

MUÑOZ-CHRISTIAN RECEIVES RISE UP EMPOWER AWARD

RISE, a nonprofit organization serving victims of domestic abuse and sexual assault, awarded Karen S. Muñoz-Christian (Modern Languages & Literatures) a 2014 RISE UP Empower Award for her work translating RISE’s website, brochures and palm cards.

GRAPHIC COMMUNICATION FEATURED IN DOCUMENTARY

Cal Poly and the Graphic Communication Department are the focus of an update for “Harvest of Wisdom,” a documentary on the role of graphic communication in society. The documentary provides a perspective on the role of written and printed communication on the development of civilization, particularly in the Western world. The department is featured beginning at 44:35. View the video: http://bit.ly/harvestwisdom.

senior project commits cal poly and csu to purchase conflict-free products


COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

MARTINEZ WORKS ON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL HARVEST OF THE MONTH

Charmaine Martinez (Art & Design) worked as a consultant for Cal Poly STRIDE — Solutions Through Research in Diet and Exercise. She collaborated on the creation of two weekend workshops for a team of nutrition students who are conducting Harvest of the Month fruit and vegetable tastings in local elementary schools.

MUÑOZ-CHRISTIAN REVITALIZES CENTRAL COAST HISTORY JOURNAL

Cal Poly’s Graphic Communication Institute (GrCI) has partnered with the History Center of San Luis Obispo County to re-establish the center’s publications program. The first project under the new partnership is La Vista, the journal of Central Coast History. La Vista Editor in Chief Jack San Filippo and Managing Editor Tim Zellinger are both Cal Poly history graduate students.

continued
STUDENTS WIN PRINTED ELECTRONICS AWARD

Students from Cal Poly and the University of Munich Applied Sciences won the Freestyle Demonstrator award at the 2014 Large-Area, Organic & Printed Electronics Convention for their collaboration on the printed electronics project “Flexible Timer for Rough Environments.” The team received one of four awards for its creation of a waterproof timer designed for rough environments — in particular, a surfboard. Named FluxTime, the timer tracks remaining rental time through an electrochromic display window. Read more: http://bit.ly/FluxTimer.

MCCARTY WINS GENERATION NEXT COMPETITION

Kyle McCarty (Journalism) was named one of three winners of the Entertainment Industry Council’s Generation Next competition. McCarty’s project, a thoroughly researched article on college youth and depression, was selected as the winner for the journalism category from a pool of more than 100 submissions statewide. Read more: http://bit.ly/WFBgzS.

LAWSON WINS CARTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION

Anthropology and geography student Troy Lawson (Social Sciences) placed first in the Professional Digitally Displayed Cartographic Award competition for his project “Historical Mapping for the City of San Luis Obispo.” Read more: http://bit.ly/lW8S3S.

BREAKSPEAR NAMED CSU PRE-DOCTORAL SCHOLAR

English graduate student Anthony Breakspear was selected as a CSU Sally Casanova Pre-Doctoral Scholar for the 2014-15 academic year. Breakspear was one of 52 CSU students selected from a pool of 200 applicants. Read more: http://bit.ly/1qAWVXn.

GRAPHIC COMMUNICATION STUDENTS WIN WRITING COMPETITION

Mallory Mize and Hannah Stombler-Levine (Graphic Communication) won first and second place, respectively, in the 2014 GEF/Flint Group Technical Writing Competition. Read more: http://bit.ly/1ugzPGP.

SHERIDAN DISPLAYS QUILT IN SOUTH AFRICAN EXHIBITION HONORING MANDELA

Denise Sheridan’s (Ethnic Studies) quilt “In the Fortress of the Enemy, You Inspired Us,” was accepted into an exhibition honoring Nelson Mandela. The exhibition will be on display in South Africa. Read more: http://bit.ly/sheridanSA.

VALLE SELECTED FOR FULBRIGHT

Victor Valle (Ethnic Studies) was selected to receive a 2014-15 Fulbright U.S. Scholar Grant. With the grant, Valle will temporarily live in Mexico to continue his research on chile-eating. Titled “The Poetics of Fire: On the Art of Chile-Eating,” Valle’s project explores how North Americans perceive the aesthetics of chile-eating. Read more: http://bit.ly/1r9N9qV.
outstanding alumni

GUIDEKICK HONORED WITH SMALL BUSINESS AWARD
Joshua Holland (B.S., Graphic Communication, 2012) and business partners were honored by a state organization dedicated to small businesses for their company GuideKick. “GuideKick is a company that builds virtual tour travel apps for historical places around the world. Mark Paddon, Aaron Rivera, Joshua Holland and Garrett Lauringson started the company by making an app for Hearst Castle. They came up with the idea after a graduation celebration trip to Machu Picchu and their frustrations about a lack of information available about what they were seeing each day.”

TRAMMEL USES CROWDFUNDING TO DESIGN SETTLERS OF CATAN BOARD HOLDER
William Trammel (B.A., Liberal Arts & Engineering Studies, 2009) was featured in the Pacific Coast Business Times for his use of crowdfunding to raise money to develop a game board holder for Settlers of Catan. Read more: http://bit.ly/WDRBoP.

LESHIN RECEIVES NIH RESEARCH AWARD
Joseph Leshin (B.S., Psychology, 2013) received an NIH Postbaccalaureate Intramural Research Training Award.

BRANCH PUBLISHES BABY BOOMER MEMOIR

upcoming events

▶ SEPT. 15-21: WEEK OF WELCOME
▶ SEPT. 22: FIRST DAY OF CLASSES
▶ OCT. 3–NOV. 1: UNIVERSITY ART GALLERY — PHOTOGRAPHY NOW?
▶ NOV. 1: HOMECOMING
▶ NOV. 1: CLA HOMECOMING FOR THE MIND
▶ NOV. 6–DEC. 5: UNIVERSITY ART GALLERY — HEATHER L. JOHNSON